



Introducing the EBRD

The EBRD has invested more than €550 million in Uzbekistan over the past 10 years, making it one of the country's leading investors. The Bank has signed 21 projects, primarily in the private sector. Most financing has been in the form of loans but the EBRD also provides equity and guarantees.

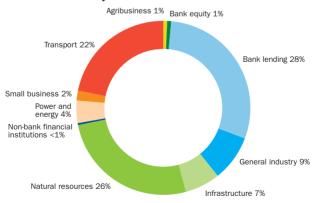
The EBRD's current objectives in Uzbekistan are to:

- support private sector development through small and medium-sized enterprises and by attracting foreign direct investment
- encourage cross border investments with neighbouring countries and support local infrastructure projects that benefit local people, such as improved water and heating
- continue dialogue with the government.

Expertise across a range of sectors

The EBRD has developed expertise across a broad range of sectors in Uzbekistan.

EBRD investments by sector



Major projects signed by the EBRD

SME credit line	€147.6 million
Zarafshan-Newmont joint-venture	€71.8 million
Fergana refinery	€71.2 million
Locomotive re-powering project	€55.8 million
Railways freight renewal and	
management project	€32.8 million
Tashkent Airport rehabilitation project	€31.5 million
Syrdarinskaya power plant	€22.8 million
Tashkent solid waste management	
rehabilitation	€15.8 million
Regional Trade Facilitation Programme	€13.0 million
Andijan district heating	€12.3 million

Flexible solutions

The EBRD takes a flexible approach to financing. EBRD funding provides up to 35 per cent of the overall costs of a project (up to 20 per cent for equity investments). The EBRD offers an extensive range of risk-sharing structures, which provide additional security. The following forms of finance are available:

Senior, mezzanine and convertible loans

Range: €0.5 million – €250 million

Period: 2-10 years

Equity

Ordinary, preferred, listed, unlisted

Range: €0.5 million – €100 million

Guarantees

- Trade facilitation
- Credit enhancement

Other forms of financing

- Greenfield
- Joint ventures
- Multi-country and multi-project facilities
- Micro, small and medium-sized enterprise financing
- Lease financing

Applying for financing

To be eligible for EBRD funding, your project must:

- have strong commercial prospects
- involve significant equity contributions in-cash or in-kind from the project sponsor
- benefit the local economy and help develop the private, as well as public, sector
- satisfy sound banking and environmental standards.

The EBRD will also require detailed information about the project, the sponsors and the size and type of finance required. Following receipt of this information, our staff will be able to determine possible financing options. Prospective borrowers are encouraged to approach the EBRD at an early stage of their project.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is an international institution established in 1991 to support the transition to market economies from central Europe to central Asia. It is owned by 60 countries and two international institutions – the European Investment Bank and the European Community.



Nonash, a tiny cake and biscuit factory in Tashkent, won Uzbekistan's first small business competition, organised by the EBRD.



An EBRD loan will help the Bursel Tashkent Textile company to build a new state-of-the-art factory.

Innovative approaches

Early Transition Countries Initiative

The EBRD has recently introduced new forms of finance to develop smaller projects in Uzbekistan and other early transition countries. In these projects the Bank's participation can range from €0.5 million to €4 million. This financing includes the *Direct Lending Facility*, which finances expansion, modernisation and acquisition projects and provides working capital. Under the *Medium-sized*Co-financing Facility, the EBRD provides co-financing alongside Uzbek banks for up to 50 per cent of the loan.

Small Business Programme

To support small business, the EBRD makes credit available through local banks, specialist small business institutions, equity funds and leasing facilities. Local banks participating in this donor-supported programme have started disbursing loans to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Uzbekistan.

Trade Facilitation Programme

Import and export trade in Uzbekistan is supported through the Bank's Trade Facilitation Programme (TFP). Through the TFP, the EBRD takes the payment risk of transactions guaranteed by local banks to stimulate international trade.

Direct Investment Facility

The Direct Investment Facility (DIF) allows the EBRD to support direct equity investments ranging from €0.5 million to €2.5 million in local enterprises. To date, the EBRD has financed one DIF project in Uzbekistan and is in the process of developing several others.

Business Advisory Services Programme

The donor-funded Business Advisory Services (BAS)
Programme develops the professional capacity of local
consultants, who in turn provide expert advice on business
performance to SMEs.

Contacting us

Please contact our local office to answer your questions.

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